

work overtime,—the Prime Minister, perhaps, the most,—the successful physician, or the great lawyer the most slavishly. But men of any merit voluntarily set the task to themselves; those of the mechanic class earnestly desire it; and so far is either that or piece-work from being regarded as an oppression, our experience as masters is, that in the eye of mechanics as a body, it is viewed as a positive objection to an establishment that it does not afford opportunity for working overtime. The real objection to piece-work, we fear is, that it protects the masters against those who are indisposed to give a fair day's work for a fair day's wages." As we have already remarked, the men demand of their masters in this last respect what associated workmen (in Paris) have discovered that they cannot honestly allow to each other. The result of these unhappy differences must be serious loss to both parties and to the country at large, and more serious the longer reconciliation is delayed. The position taken on either side, does not justify a hope of a speedy arrangement: we wish we could aid in effecting it. The tone of the masters' pamphlet is, we fear, not calculated to do so.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

Leigh-de-la-Mere, Wills.—At the village church of Leigh-de-la-Mere, built at the expense of Joseph Neeld, Esq., a *Lich Gate* has been put up under the direction of Mr. Thomson. It is of English oak, wrought and framed together in a substantial manner, and varnished to exhibit the rich colour of the wood. The roof is close boarded with oak placed lengthwise, and tiled with stone tiles. The application of the Lich Gate was suggested to Mr. Neeld, we understand, by our publication of an example of one some time since.

Claydon.—During the last six months a great portion of the parish church has been rebuilt. The former chancel, which was in a very dilapidated state, was taken down, as was also a portion of the nave, to allow of an enlargement by the erection of a transept. The rebuilding of the chancel, according to a contemporary, was undertaken by an amateur. The transept was built from a design by Mr. R. M. Phipson, architect. At the intersections with the nave and chancel are four moulded arches. Above is a groined roof of wood. The windows towards the north and south have flowing tracery. In the north and south compartments there is a wagon roof, divided into square panels, the intersections being ornamented with bosses. The nave is fitted up with open seats, which are unappropriated: the transept at present is not furnished. The roof and benches are the work of Mr. Ringham, whose son, Mr. W. Ringham, undertook the sculpture of the stone corbels. The ancient portion of the church contains some evidences of a Saxon date. At each of the western angles of the nave is an example of long and short work. The south door in the interior exhibits the same mode of building.

Wellington.—The contracts for the water-works at Wellington were let on the 14th, at prices within the estimate of Mr. Marten, the engineer to the company. Messrs. Dickson, McKenzie and Co. of Oaken-gates, have taken the contracts for the reservoir and pipe-laying; Messrs. Cochran and Co. of Dudley, for the pipes; and Mr. Edward Bliskmore, of Wednesbury, for the cocks. The works are to be commenced forthwith, and will be completed, it is expected, in about four months.

Milford Haven.—The estimated cost of constructing and completing the intended wet docks and floating basin at Milford Haven is 100,000l.

Bangor.—The survey of the borough by Mr. Johnson having been examined and approved of by Mr. H. Austin and the General Board of Health, the local board have appointed Mr. Johnson, their surveyor, to carry out the drainage of the town, and superintend the details, the plan to be submitted to the general board within one month.

Easton.—A painted window has recently been erected in the nave of St. Mark's Church,

Easton. It is the gift of Mr. H. F. St. John, who, it is said, has studied the art of painting in glass under Mr. Bell, with a view solely to the extension of the art to sacred purposes. The window referred to represents the Baptism of our Lord. Mr. St. John has contributed several other windows of less elaborate character to this church.

Birmingham.—It is a gratifying proof of the appreciation of art by the working classes, that the Exhibition of Paintings at the Society of Artists' Rooms, has, since the reduction of the charge of admission, been visited by nearly five thousand persons. The Exhibition is announced to close on Saturday, the 31st inst.—*Aris's Gazette.*—A stained window has recently been inserted in the chancel of St. Martin's Church, in place of the unsightly and inappropriate one formerly over the altar. It is the production of Messrs. Chance, of the Spensley Works, and has been provided by a fund subscribed some time ago for the purpose. The window is of three lights, with a head filled with flowing tracery. No figures have been introduced into the design, and but very few symbols, the principal one being the *Agnus Dei* in the head of the centre light. The remaining portion of the centre and the whole of the side lights are composed of medallions containing geometrical designs, and surrounded by scroll-work and floriated tracery. Each light is separated from the mullion by a narrow band of a deep blue colour; and the prevailing colours employed in the whole window are blue, green, orange, and ruby. The tracery of the head is composed of trefoils, quatrefoils, and conventional modifications of the *Vesica Piscis*, some of which contain scrolls, and others the open Bible, the Sacred Monogram, the Eucharistic chalice, the Cross, and the emblems of the Holy Trinity.

Liverpool.—An inquest was held on Thursday week on James Foulis, aged 44, a joiner, in the employ of Furniss and Kilpin, at St. George's Hall. That morning, about seven o'clock, the deceased left his work to go to a water-closet, and not returning before eight o'clock, a search was made for him, when he was found lying dead at the bottom of one of Dr. Reid's ventilating shafts. He must have fallen a height of 20 feet. Mr. Hughes, clerk of the works, said that, on Friday, the key had been taken from his office for the purpose of measuring the door and frame: the key had been returned into its usual place, and he never knew that the door had been left unlocked until he heard that the deceased had been found dead. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, but made a presumption that they "considered the place in question as exceedingly dangerous; and that a watchman ought to have been in attendance to prevent danger." It was stated in the coroner's court by one of the men employed in St. George's Hall, that this is the sixth person who has been killed in that building.

Cockermouth.—The Consistory Court of Richmond, Yorkshire, have decided that Mr. Clarke's design is to be carried out.

HOLLOW BRICKS.

"There is nothing new under the sun," was the observation of Solomon. If you remember, it was stated that it was intended by the Bey to send over specimens of hollow bricks, at the present time in constant requisition in Tunis, for the Great Exhibition; but the interest of such a contribution was at the last moment accidentally overlooked.

In the Museum of the Bath Scientific Institution, specimens of hollow bricks used by the Romans, and dug up within a short distance of the spot where they are now deposited, may be seen by any party interested. They are double the size of those used by Messrs. Baxley and Co., and are cemented together by genuine Roman cement. And, no doubt, a machine like our modern ones for making them was also used by the Romans. It would be interesting to test the strength of these bricks, and of the cement that unites them, as compared with the modern manufacture. In Bengal, the floors of Bungalows are usually constructed with earthenware pots,

commonly called "Kedgerie pots," turned over, with their orifices on the ground. Charcoal is filled between the interstices, and a coat of brick concrete is laid on the top, thus forming a perfectly dry floor. What a comfort would floors of hollow brick prove to the kitchens or cellars in some of our damp localities. H. W.

BIRMINGHAM NEW WORKHOUSE.

Our engraving represents the large workhouse which has been erected for Birmingham, under the direction of Mr. J. J. Bateman, architect, who appears to have provided for the town a very creditable structure. The building will be opened for occupation in March next.

Accommodation is provided for 700 adults, including officers and tramps, 600 children, and an infirmary for 310. The principal features of the design are the isolation of each from the other, of the workhouse, the infirmary, the tramp department, and the asylum for the children, and of the perfect separation of the classes in each department. The asylum for the children has every accommodation for their maintenance and education, with a view to promoting habits of industry and self-reliance in their future career.

The cooking for the whole of the establishment is performed in one central kitchen. One entrance only is provided to the buildings for the better control of ingress and egress to and from the establishment.

The main building, comprising the workhouse department, has an open corridor throughout, 10 feet wide, and open from the second floor to the roof, with iron galleries at each floor, for supervision by the officers only. This arrangement gives great facility for effective ventilation, and inspection.

The chapel is fitted up with open seats, and two small galleries in the transepts for children.

By private subscription of the guardians, the officers of the workhouse, and the contractors, three stained glass windows (by Messrs. Chance), from Winchester examples, have been placed in the chancel and aisles. The chancel window contains, in the five principal lights, figures of the Saviour and four Evangelists, with canopies and pedestals, and symbols in the ten upper lights. The two aisle windows contain four scriptural subjects of altarpieces. Two other one-light windows have been presented by Messrs. Chance, of the Baptism and Preaching of St. John. The remaining aisle and transept windows have been filled with stained flower quarries by the architect. Mr. Minton has presented encaustic tiles for the chancel, and the architect has given Minton's tiles for the aisles and nave.

The whole of the building works have been very creditably performed by Mr. Glenn, of Liverpool-road, London.

The cold water is supplied from a well by an engine to a tank, containing 30,000 gallons, placed above the ridges of the building, and a reserve of 10,000 gallons from the ordinary supply is always retained in the tank for the supply of the fire-mains, which extend throughout the buildings. The drains are flushed from this tank.

From a high-pressure steam-boiler, placed in a central situation, hot supplies for baths, lavatories, hospital, wash-house, drying-house, kitchen, sculleries, and for warming the infirm wards, dining-hall, and other parts of the building, are obtained. The engineering work has been ably constructed and applied by Mr. W. Jackson, of London, and the comprehensive centralization of the heating powers has been very successfully carried out. Every room will be lighted by gas.

The furniture, of design to correspond with the building, has been made by Messrs. Jenkins and Ashford, of Birmingham.

The arrangements for ventilation, and other sanitary provisions, have been well spoken of.

The buildings include an area of above five acres, and liberal accommodation is provided for 1,610 inmates. The cost of the building amounts to about 20,000l., exclusive of fixtures, furniture, and fittings.